

## 1. BOSC 2017 Nominations

### Self Nomination:

Yes

### Nominator Information

First Name

Last Name

Nominator Title

Street Address

City

State

Postal Code

Email Address

Phone Number

Mobile Phone

### Nominee Information

First Name

Donald

Last Name

Nelson

Nominee Title

Dr.

Street Address

Exemption 6

Mobile Phone

### Employment Information

Place of Employment/Work:

University of Georgia

Work Street Address

250 Baldwin Hall, Jackson St.

**Work City**

Athens

**Work State:**

GA

**Work Postal Code**

30602

**Work Phone Number**

706-542-1452

**Work Email Address**

dnelson@uga.edu

**Sector**

Academia

**Qualifications**

**Primary Area(s) of Expertise**

Dr. Nelson is an environmental anthropologist with over 20 years of national and international experience in climate adaptation, disaster risk management, community resilience, and participatory approaches to natural resource management – including terrestrial and water resources. His work focuses on the human dimensions of climate variability, the role of scientific information in resource management, and how social and political relations shape decision-making and policy outcomes. He has expertise in vulnerability and resilience assessments and facilitating participatory interactions for risk assessment and risk reduction planning in relation to community planning and water resources.

**Committee Preference(s)**

Executive Committee

Safe and Sustainable Water Resources Subcommittee

Sustainable and Healthy Communities Subcommittee

**Statement of Interest**

My applied research and consulting work align strongly with the mission and purpose of the EPA. Over the course of my professional life, I have gained considerable academic and practical experience – drawn from my work in the Midwest, Southwest, and Southeast US, Europe, Africa, and the Americas – related to environmental risks, resilient livelihoods and communities, participatory and inclusive planning, and the use of science in decision support tools. I have had opportunities link my empirical work with policy needs in the US and abroad. However, these tend to be singular events that respond to individual problem and policy demands. Participation on the Board of Scientific Counselors presents an opportunity to provide ongoing strategic advice and recommendations for policy-relevant science.

When I first graduated with my Ph.D. I was undecided whether to accept the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) policy fellowship that I was offered, or a Post Doc at the University of East Anglia, UK. I accepted the Post Doc because of my climate change and adaptation research interests, but have always maintained a strong interest in the relationship between sound science and policy. The Office of Research and Development is located precisely at that boundary between science and public policy. My experience with empirical research, interdisciplinary teams, scientific review, and development of research agendas provides me with the background to make relevant, timely, and insightful contributions towards the five primary objectives of the BOSC.

**Skills/qualifications related to committee preference(s) specified**

Dr. Nelson has a Ph.D. in Anthropology with a minor in Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis. His applied, problem-oriented research is highly interdisciplinary and he works regularly with ecologists, environmental

and civil engineers, geomorphologists, and others, in pursuit of solutions to environmental challenges. His research skills include qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. He has worked as a member of two of NOAA's Regional Integrated Science and Assessment Programs (CLIMAS and SCC) and held a three-year Post Doc at the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. He has authored highly cited articles in the areas of climate change, adaptation, resilience, and disaster.

In Dr. Nelson's role as a member of various boards, he contributes to the promotion of cutting edge science. He currently sits on the executive committees of the River Basin Center and the Institute for Resilient Infrastructure Systems (IRIS) at the University of Georgia. The newly formed IRIS exemplifies and promotes science that merges research in built and green infrastructures with social systems to create forward-looking solutions to contemporary and future water-related issues. He is currently an Associate Editor for Anthropocene and a Subject Editor for Ecology and Society. Both are interdisciplinary journals that focus on the relationship between people and their environments. As an editor, Dr. Nelson helps to define the vision of each journal and identify and support the intellectual trends in scholarship.

In addition to generating funding for multiple interdisciplinary research grants through NOAA, NSF, ESRC, the Brazilian Federal Government and state agencies, Dr. Nelson has sat on research review panels for the NSF, NEH, AXA Research Fund, ESRC, NERC, and others.

#### **Other Relevant Information**

Dr. Nelson was recognized as a National Academy of Science Kavli Fellow for his work in drought and climate adaptation in 2009.

#### **CV/Resume URL**

#### **2. CV/Resume**

**Please upload your CV/ Resume.**

[DNelson\\_2017\\_06\\_EPA.pdf](#)

#### **3.**

#### **BOSC Nomination**

Jun 30, 2017 11:33:42 Success: Email Sent to: tracy.tom@epa.gov

#### **4. Thank You for your Submission!**

**DONALD ROBERT NELSON**

**Curriculum Vitae**

Department of Anthropology, University of Georgia, Baldwin Hall, Athens GA 30602

[dnelson@uga.edu](mailto:dnelson@uga.edu)

706-542-1452

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Anthropology; Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis minor, University of Arizona, 2005

M.A., Anthropology, University of Arizona, 2000

B.A., Anthropology, University of Nebraska, 1995

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

**University of Georgia, Department of Anthropology**

Associate Professor (2015 – Present)

Assistant Professor (2009 – 2015)

**Universidade Federal do Ceará, Department of Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering**

Visiting Professor (2012)

**University of East Anglia, Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research**

Visiting Fellow (2009 – 2012)

Senior Research Associate (2006-2009)

**University of Arizona, Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology**

Adjunct Professor (2006 – 2015)

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

**National Academy of Sciences**, Kavli Fellow, 2009

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Institute for Resilient Infrastructure Systems – Executive Committee, 2017 - Present

River Basin Center – Executive Committee, 2016 - Present

Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute – Executive Committee, 2015 - Present

**GRANTS RECEIVED**

**National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq – Brazil)** “Adaptive Management of Drought Risk as a Strategy for Reduction of Climate Change Impacts”. Co-Principal Investigator. 2016 – 2018. \$150,000.

**National Science Foundation:** “Human and Natural Forcings of Critical Zone Dynamics and Evolution at the Calhoun Critical Zone Observatory”. Co-Principal Investigator 2014 -2019. \$5,000,000 – (\$247,000 Nelson).

**Maranhão Foundation for Support for Research and Scientific Development (FAPEMA):**

“Support for International Collaboration”. Co-Principal Investigator. 2014-2015. \$45,000.

**University of Georgia, Provost Summer Research Grant:** “Supporting Social Institutions to Build Fair Access to Changing Water Resources”. 2012. \$5,000.

**National Science Foundation:** “The Relative Importance of Generic vs. Specific Capacity in Addressing Drought Vulnerability in NE Brazil”. Principal Investigator. 2011 – 2015. \$302,000.

**The Secretariat of Agrarian Development, Ceará; The Development Bank of Northeast Brazil:** “Agricultural Drought and Local Crises: A Spatial and Temporal Analysis of the Socioeconomic Impacts of Hydrologic Variability in Ceará, Brazil”. Principal Investigator. 2010 – 2011. \$75,000

**President’s Venture Funds Award, University of Georgia:** Travel support for four students to attend a graduate student workshop at Penn State University, 2010. \$2,500

**Exposition Foundation Latin American/Caribbean Research Travel Award:** Travel support for archival research. 2009. \$1,350

**The Earth Institute at Columbia University:** “Integrated Assessment of Vulnerability in Rainfed Agriculture: Drought Impacts, Coping, and Understanding / Use of forecasts”. Co- Principal Investigator. 2007 – 2008. \$50,000.

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Environment, Science and Development Element:** “Living with Drought: Integrating Climate Information with Rural Development Planning in Ceará, Brazil”. Principal Investigator. 2004 – 2005. \$130,000.

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Program on Economics and Human Dimensions of Climate Change:** “Use And Usefulness: A Comparative Study Of ENSO-Based Climate Forecasting Systems In Drought-Affected Regions Of Latin America”. Co- Principal Investigator. 2000-2003. \$298,000.

#### **SELECTED CONSULTANCIES**

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Lead consultant for Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, Mozambique. Provided oversight and expert assistance for the data collection and analysis of the socioeconomic impacts of the 2015-2016 drought and 2017 cyclone and the development of a resilient recovery strategy.

UNDP – Social Impact Assessment Lead for Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, Angola. Provided expert assistance for data collection and analysis of the social and human impacts of the 2012 – 2016 drought in southern Angola. 2016

United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Country-level representative for Feed the Future – FEEDBACK. Provided technical assistance for population based survey design, implementation, and data analysis for the baseline and interim surveys for Feed the Future, Mozambique. 2012 – 2016

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and Ministry of Science and Technology, Brazil. Provided an expert review of the Brazilian Panel on Climate Change Working Group 2 Report covering the vulnerability of social-ecological systems and the impacts of climate change on these systems. 2013

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, Global Environment Facility (GEF). Analyzed the GEF-5 focal area strategies to identify the climate risks and potential adaptation responses needed to enhance the resilience project objectives and outputs. 2010

USAID. Developed food and livelihood security risk and impact assessment tools in preparation for pandemic flu events in Latin America. 2009

World Food Program (WFP), Union of Comoros. Conducted a Comprehensive Food Security Vulnerability Assessment in consideration of climatic and geophysical risks. 2006

World Bank, UNESCO, Brazil – Coordinated fieldwork for the evaluation of the impact of the decentralized conditional cash transfer program *Bolsa Escola*. 2005

WFP, Mozambique. Conducted a food security evaluation for the Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping baseline assessment. 2004

Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), East Africa Regional Management Unit. Analyzed the Coping Strategy Index for use as a food insecurity indicator. 2004

USAID. Authored an issues paper for the concept of development relief. 2004

World Vision, Mauritania. Analyzed data and authored the report for the midterm evaluation of the Mauritania Anti-Poverty Title II Program. 2003

Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance (FANTA). Developed a handbook for agencies with Title II funding which presents methods for measuring food access. 2003

CARE, Bangladesh. Analyzed data and authored the report for the Southeast Livelihood Baseline Survey. 2003

CARE, Southwest Africa Regional Management Unit. Analyzed data and authored the report on the erosion of livelihoods in rural Malawi. 2003

WFP, Indonesia. Analyzed data and authored the report for the Internally Displaced Persons Livelihood Baseline. 2002

#### **PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

Tucker, B., and **D.R. Nelson**. 2017. What does economic anthropology have to contribute to studies of risk and resilience? *Economic Anthropology*. 4(2):161-172.

Coughlan, M., **D.R. Nelson**, M. Lonneman, and A. Block. 2017. Historical Land Use Dynamics in the Highly Degraded Landscape of the Calhoun Critical Zone Observatory. *Land*. 6(32).

**Nelson, D.R.**, M.C. Lemos, H. Eakin, Y.J. Lo. 2016. The limits of poverty reduction in support of climate change adaptation. *Environmental Research Letters*. 11:094001.

- Barbosa, R., **D.R. Nelson**. 2016. The use of support vector machine to analyze food security in a northeastern region of Brazil. *Applied Artificial Intelligence*. 30(4):318-330.
- Lemos, M.C., Y.J. Lo, **D.R. Nelson**, H. Eakin. 2016. Leveraging generic and specific capacities to reduce vulnerability to drought in NE Brazil. *Global Environmental Change*. 39:170-179.
- Burke, B.J., M. Welch-Devine, S. Gustafson, N. Heynen, J. L. Rice, T. L. Gragson, S. R. Evans and **D. R. Nelson**. 2016. Can Science Writing Collectives Overcome Barriers to More Democratic Communication and Collaboration? Lessons from Environmental Communication Praxis in Southern Appalachia. *Environmental Communication*. 10(2):169-186.
- Nelson, D. R.**, and T. J. Finan. 2014. Participação e Impotência: a Busca pela Esperança na periferia de Fortaleza, Brasil. *Iluminuras* 15(36): 152–170.
- Eakin, H. C., M. C. Lemos, and **D. R. Nelson**. 2014. Differentiating capacities as a means to sustainable climate change adaptation. *Global Environmental Change* 27:1–8.
- Nelson, D. R.**, FA de Souza Filho, TJ Finan, and S Ferreira. 2014. Trajectories of adaptation: A retrospectus for future dynamics. In *Social-ecological Systems in Transition*. S. Sakai and C Umetso eds. Global Environmental Series, Springer, Tokyo, Japan.
- Lemos, M. C., A. Agrawal, H. Eakin, **D. R. Nelson**, N. L. Engle, and O. Johns. 2013. Building Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in Less Developed Countries. In *Climate Science for Serving Society: Research, Modeling and Prediction Priorities*. G. R. Asrar and J. W. Hurrell, eds. Pp. 437–57: Springer Verlag.
- Furman, C., C. Roncoli, **D. R. Nelson**, and G. Hoogenboom. 2013. Growing food, growing a movement: climate adaptation and civic agriculture in the southeastern United States. *Agriculture and Human Values*.
- Fidelman, P. I., A. M. Leitch, and **D. R. Nelson**. 2013. Unpacking multilevel adaptation to climate change in the Great Barrier Reef, Australia. *Global Environmental Change*.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. Vulnerability and Resilience of Modern Societies to Environmental Change. In *The SAGE handbook of environmental change*. John A. Matthews and Patrick J. Bartlein, eds. Los Angeles: Sage.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. Adaptation and resilience: responding to a changing climate. *WIREs Clim Change* 2(1):113–20.
- Nelson, D. R.**, F. d. Souza Filho, and T. J. Finan. 2011. Técnica, Cultura e Meio Ambiente para pensar o Semiárido. *Revista Homem, Espaço e Tempo* 5(2):1–15.
- Adger, W. N., K. Brown, **D. R. Nelson**, F. Berkes, H. Eakin, C. Folke, K. Galvin et al. 2011. Resilience implications of policy responses to climate change. *WIREs Clim Change* 2(5):757–66.

- Engle, N. L., Owen R. Johns, Maria Carmen Lemos, and **D. R. Nelson**. 2011. Integrated and Adaptive Management of Water Resources: Tensions, Legacies, and the Next Best Thing. *Ecology and Society* 16(1). <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol16/iss1/art19/>.
- Miller F, Osbahr H, Boyd E, Thomalla F, Bharwani S, Ziervogel G, Walker B, Birkmann J, van der Leeuw S, Rockström J, Hinkel J, Downing T, Folke C, and **D. R. Nelson**. 2010. Resilience and Vulnerability: Complementary or Conflicting Concepts? *Ecology and Society* 15(3).
- Lemos, M. C., A. R. Bell, N. L. Engle, R. M. Formiga-Hohnsson, and **D. R. Nelson**. 2010. Technical Knowledge and water resources management: A comparative study of river basin councils, Brazil. *Water Resources Research* 46.
- Hulme, D., S. Dessai, I. Lorenzoni, and **D. R. Nelson**. 2010. Unstable Climates: Exploring the Statistical and Social Constructions of 'Normal' Climate. In *Human geography*, V. 1. publ. Derek Gregory and Noel Castree eds. Pp. 117–40. Sage fundamentals of geography. London : SAGE Publications.
- Lemos, M. C., R. M. Formiga-Johnsson, **D. R. Nelson**, and N. Engle. 2010. Informação técnica e gestão participativa de bacias hidrográficas no Brasil. In *Água e política: Atores, instituições e poder nos organismos colegiados de bacia hidrográfica no Brasil*. 1a ed. Rebecca Abers, ed. Pp. 173–94. Coleção Cidadania e Meio Ambiente. São Paulo, SP, Brasil: Annablume.
- Adger, W. N., and **D. R. Nelson**. 2010. Fair decision making in a new climate of risk. In *Climate change, ethics and human security*. Karen O'Brien, Asunción St. Clair, and Berit Kristoffersen, eds. Pp. 83–94. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2009. Transforming the World. In *Adapting to climate change*. W. N. Adger, Irene Lorenzoni, and Karen L. O'Brien, eds. Pp. 491–500. Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Eakin, H., E. L. Tompkins, **D. R. Nelson**, and J. M. Anderies. 2009. Hidden costs and disparate uncertainties: trade-offs in approaches to climate policy. In *Adapting to climate change*. W. N. Adger, Irene Lorenzoni, and Karen L. O'Brien, eds. Pp. 212–26. Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Finan, T. J., and **D. R. Nelson**. 2009. Decentralized planning and climate adaptation: toward transparent governance. In *Adapting to climate change*. W. N. Adger, Irene Lorenzoni, and Karen L. O'Brien, eds. Pp. 335–49. Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Nelson, D. R.**, and T. J. Finan. 2009. Weak Winters: Dynamic Decision-Making in the Face of Extended Drought in Ceará, Northeast Brazil. In *The political economy of hazards and disasters*. Eric C. Jones and Arthur D. Murphy, eds. Pp. 107–32. Society for economic anthropology (SEA) monographs no. 27. Lanham: AltaMira Press.
- Nelson, D. R.**, and T. J. Finan. 2009. Praying for Drought: Persistent Vulnerability and the Politics of Patronage in Ceará, Northeast Brazil. *American Anthropologist* 111(3):302–16.

- Nelson, D. R.**, M. T. Folhes, and T. J. Finan. 2009. Mapping the road to development: a methodology for scaling up participation in policy processes. *Development in Practice* 19(3):386–95.
- Hulme, M., S. Dessai, I. Lorenzoni, and **D. R. Nelson**. 2009. Unstable climates: Exploring the statistical and social constructions of ‘normal’ climate. *Geoforum* 40(2):197–206.
- Adger, W. N., S. Dessai, M. Goulden, M. Hulme, I. Lorenzoni, **D. R. Nelson**, L. O. Naess, J. Wolf, and A. Wreford. 2009. Are there social limits to adaptation to climate change? *Climatic Change* 93(3-4):335–54.
- Nelson, D. R.**, W. N. Adger, and K. Brown. 2007. Adaptation to environmental change: Contributions of a resilience framework. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 32:395–419.
- Folhes, M. T., and **D. R. Nelson**. 2007. Previsões Tradicionais de Tempo e Clima no Ceará: O Conhecimento Popular à Serviço da Ciência. *Sociedade e Natureza* 19(2):19–31.
- Lemos, M. C., T. J. Finan, R. W. Fox, **D. R. Nelson**, and J. Tucker. 2002. The Use of Seasonal Climate Forecasting in Policymaking: Lessons from Northeast Brazil. *Climatic Change* 55:479–507.
- Brondizio, E., S. D. McCracken, E. F. Moran, A. D. Siqueira, **D. R. Nelson**, and C. Rodriguez-Pedraza. 2002. The Colonist Footprint: Toward a Conceptual Framework of Land Use and Deforestation Trajectories among Small Farmers in the Amazonian Frontier. In *Deforestation and Land Use in the Amazon*. Charles H. Wood and Roberto Porro, eds. Pp. 133–61. Gainesville, FL: University of Florida Press.
- Finan, T. J., and **D. R. Nelson**. 2001. Making rain, making roads, making do: public and private adaptations to drought in Ceará, Northeast Brazil. *Climate Research* 19:97–108.
- McCracken, S. D., E. S. Brondizio, **D. R. Nelson**, E. F. Moran, A. D. Siqueira, and C. Rodriguez-Pedraza. 1999. Remote Sensing and GIS at Farm Property Level: Demography and Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon. *Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing* 65(11):1311–20.

#### MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW

- D.R. Nelson** and T.J. Finan. Poverty and Food Insecurity in Northeast Brazil: The complex influence of cash transfers upon rural livelihoods. *Journal of Development Studies*.
- Delaney A., T. Evans, J. McGreevy, J. Blekking, T. Schlachter, K. Korhonen-Kurki, P.A. Tamás , T.A. Crane , H. Eakin, W. Förch, L. Jones, **D.R. Nelson** , C. Oberlack, and M. Purdon. Under review. Governance of Food Systems Across Scales in Times of Social-Ecological Change: A Review of Indicators. *Food Security*.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Chin, A., L. Gillson, S. Quirling, **D.R. Nelson**, M.P. Taylor, V. Vanacker, D. Lovegrove. 2016. *An evolving Anthropocene for science and society. Anthropocene* 13:1-3.

Delaney A., T. Evans, J. McGreevy, J. Blekking, T. Schlachter, K. Korhonen-Kurki, P.A. Tamás, T.A. Crane, H. Eakin, W. Förch, L. Jones, **D.R. Nelson**, C. Oberlack, and M. Purdon. 2016. Strengthening the food systems governance evidence base: Supporting commensurability of research through a systematic review of methods. Working Paper no. 167. Copenhagen, Denmark: CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)

**Nelson, D. R.** 2010. Climate change: understanding anthropogenic contributions and responses. *Popul Environ* 31(5):283–85.

**Nelson, D. R.**, C. T. West, and T. J. Finan. 2009. Introduction to “In Focus: Global Change and Adaptation in Local Places”. *American Anthropologist* 111(3):271–74.

Ravindranath NH, M. Stocking, L. Neretin, **D. R. Nelson**, and S. J. V. J. Patwardhan Anand. 2010. *Enhancing Resilience to Reduce Climate Risks: Scientific Rationale for the Sustained Delivery of Global Environmental Benefits in GEF Focal Areas*. Step Advisory Document GEF/C.39/Inf.18: United Nations Environment Programme.

Lemos, M. C., A. R. Bell, N. L. Engle, R. M. Formiga-Johnsson, and **D. R. Nelson**. 2009. Technical knowledge and democratic decision-making: Building adaptive capacity of fresh water systems in Brazil. *IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science* 6:292015.

Duarte, M., **D. R. Nelson**, P. Norton, R. Nadelman, and J. Wolf. 2009. Adapting to Climate Change: Understanding the Social Dimensions of Vulnerability and Resilience. In *Environment Matters at the World Bank*. Pp. 24–27. Washington.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2009. Expanding the Climate Change Research Agenda. *Anthropology News*, 48:10-12.

Janvry, A. de, E. Sautolet, F. Finan, **D. R. Nelson**, K. Lindert, B. de la Brière, and P. Lanjouw. 2005. *Brazil's Bolsa Escola Program: The Role of Local Governance in Decentralized Implementation*. Social Safety Nets Primer Series: World Bank Institute.

**Nelson, D. R.**, and T. J. Finan. 2000. The Emergence of a Climate Anthropology in Northeast Brazil. *Practicing Anthropology* 22(4):6–10.

McCracken, S. D., E. S. Brondízio, E. F. Moran, **D. R. Nelson**, A. D. Siqueira, and C. Rodriguez-Pedraza. 1998. The use of remote sensing and GIS in the collection of survey data on households and land-use: Example from the agricultural frontier of the Brazilian Amazon. In *Símposio de Sensoriamento Remoto*. Anais IX. Pp. 45–52. São José dos Campos: INPE.

#### **INVITED LECTURES, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS**

**Nelson, D.R.** 2017 “Natural Resources in the Semi-Arid and Human Vulnerability”. Keynote speaker, III Brazilian Symposium on Natural Resources in the Semi-Arid”. Universidade Federal do Ceará, Fortaleza, Brazil.

- Nelson, D.R.** 2016. "Academic contributions to knowledge building: Vulnerability assessment". Workshop on the 2010-2016 Drought in Northeast Brazil. Northeast Development Bank, Fortaleza, Brazil.
- Nelson, D.R.** 2016. "Differentiating capacities as a means to sustainable climate change adaptation". Invited speaker for the workshop "*Building Community Capacity to Adapt to Climate Change across Sites, Groups and Scales*". Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, NY.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2015. "Governance and institutions across scales in Climate Resilient Food Systems". Invited workshop participant. Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security, CGIAR. Brussels, Belgium.
- Nelson, D.R.** 2015. "Participação e mapeamento comunitário para promover uma gestão municipal mais eficaz e inclusiva". Department of Anthropology, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil.
- Nelson, D.R.** 2015. "Seca no Sertão: Uma análise sobre a mediação política das vulnerabilidades ao clima durante 50 anos". Department of Anthropology, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil.
- Nelson, D.R.** 2015. "Drought vulnerability and 20 years of public policy in Northeast Brazil". Brazilian Student Association, University of Georgia, Georgia.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2014. "Governance and institutions across scales in Climate Resilient Food Systems". Invited workshop participant. Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security, CGIAR. Brussels, Belgium.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2013. "The theoretical and policy contributions of methods to assess vulnerability change through time". Seminário Internacional de Investigações sobre Vulnerabilidade dos Desastres Socionaturais. Keynote speaker. Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina. Florianópolis, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2013. "Social, policy and climatic change in NE Brazil: The droughts of 1997-98 and 2012-13". Drought Policy Conference. David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University. Cambridge, MA.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2013. "Vulnerability and Resilience: Methodological Approaches Applied in Northeast Brazil". School of Sustainability, Arizona State University.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2013. "Means and Extremes: The changing nature of climate risk for dryland agriculture in NE Brazil". Seminar series, Odum School of Ecology. University of Georgia.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2013. "Vulnerability and Resilience: Methodological Approaches Applied in Northeast Brazil". Drought Preparedness and Climate Change Resilience in Brazil: Assistance with Institutionalizing Proactive Risk-Based Policy and Management Symposium. World Bank Scoping Mission, Fortaleza, CE, Brazil.

- Nelson, D. R.** 2013. "Partnerships and Communities: Building academic and personal relationships through collaboration and Exchange". Roundtable presenter and discussant. I BSA Symposium: Collaboration & academic production: Stimulating research and partnership between UGA and Brazil. University of Georgia. Athens, GA.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. "Planejamento Participativo e Recursos Hídricos". Departmental Seminar Series, Departamento de Engenharia Hidráulica e Ambiental (Department of Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering). Universidade Federal do Ceará. Fortaleza, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. "Secas Locais: Estratégias de Promoção de Adaptação". Departmental Seminar Series, Departamento de Engenharia Hidráulica e Ambiental. Universidade Federal do Ceará. Fortaleza, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. "Resiliência de Sistemas Sócio-Ecológicos: Uma Perspectiva Histórica". Departmental Seminar Series, Departamento de Engenharia Hidráulica e Ambiental. Universidade Federal do Ceará. Fortaleza, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. "From Snakebites to Sweatshops: Tales of Adaptation from the Brazilian Drylands". Departmental Lecture Series, Department of Anthropology. Baylor University.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. "De Cliente a Cidadão: Desafios na Participação Social" (From Client to Citizen: Challenges for Social Participation). Fórum para Idéias Inovativas (Forum for Innovative Ideas). Instituto de Estudos e Pesquisas para o Desenvolvimento do Ceará (Research Institute for Development in Ceará), State Legislative Assembly. Fortaleza, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. "From Client to Citizen: A Role for Technology in Changing Social Relations in Northeast Brazil". Department Lecture Series, Departments of Geography and Latino and Hispanic Caribbean Studies. Rutgers University.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. "Limits of Environmental Governance". Invited workshop participant. National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Centre, Annapolis MD.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Trajectories of Adaptation: A Retrospectus for Future Change Dynamics". RIHN 6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium: "Beyond collapse: Transformation of Human-Environmental Relationships, Past, Present, Future". Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, National Institutes for the Humanities, and the Inter-University Research Corporation. Kyoto, Japan.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Vulnerability and Adaptive Capacity Thinking Today"; "Vulnerability Assessment Methods". Presented at the workshop "Forest Community Vulnerability and Adaptive Capacity in the Context of Climate Change". University of Montana and the Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station. Lubrecht Experimental Forest, Montana.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Adaptation Studies: Anthropological Contributions to Theory and Policy". Brown Bag Series, Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology, University of Arizona.

- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Third International Conference: Climate, Sustainability, and Development in the Semiarid Regions." Invited workshop participant. Provincial Government of Mendoza, Argentina and the State Government of Ceará, Brazil. Mendoza, Argentina.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Trajectories of Adaptation: A in the Brazilian Drylands" Fall 2011, Seminar Series. Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. University of Georgia,
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "From Snakebites to Sweatshops: Tales of Climate Adaptation in the Brazilian Drylands". Climate and Society Initiative Brown Bag Seminar. University of Georgia.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Técnica, Cultura e Meio Ambiente para pensar o Semi-árido". Educação contextualizada: Natureza, Técnica, Cidadania e Diversidade Cultural. III Fórum Brasileiro do Semi-árido. Universidade Estadual Vale do Acaraú. Sobral, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Methods and Frameworks for Assessing Vulnerability". Emory University, Masters in Development Practice.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Climate Change and Food Security". Panelist. 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National Summit of the International Association for Students in Agriculture and Related Sciences. University of Georgia.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Where does climate fit within Anthropology?". University of Michigan. School of Natural Resources and the Environment.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2010. "Responding to Extreme Weather Events: Climate Variability and Change". Brown International Advanced Research Institutes, Brown University, Providence, RI.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2010. "Systems in Motion: The Nested Nature of Climate Adaptation in Northeast Brazil". Curriculum for the Environment and Ecology, University of North Carolina.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2010. "Systems in Motion: The Nested Nature of Climate Adaptation in Northeast Brazil". Earth and Environmental Systems Institute, Pennsylvania State University.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2010. "Anthropological Perspectives on Social-Ecological Resilience". Panelist. Society for Applied Anthropology, Mérida, Mexico.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2010. "Social Aspects of Climate Change". Emory University, Department of Environmental Studies, GA.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2009. "Our Hot and Uncertain Future: Is Adaptation to Climate Change Possible?". Session Chair. Kavli Frontiers of Science Symposium, National Academy of Sciences, Irvine, CA.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2009. "Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability". Invited workshop participant. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; Earth System Science Programme; Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais, São José dos Campos, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2009. "Beyond Limits to Adaptation to Transformations in Practice". Invited workshop participant. Environmental Change Institute, Oxford, UK.

- Nelson, D. R.** 2009. "International Expert Panel on Megacities, Vulnerability, and Global Climate Change". Invited workshop participant. Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Climate change and water resources: impacts and adaptation". Given for the short course: Climate change: science, impacts and responses. Imperial College, London.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Freshwater and Ecosystem Services". Session chair. Resilience, Adaptation, and Transformation in Turbulent Times. Stockholm Resilience Centre and the Stockholm Environment Institute, Stockholm.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Adaptation Strategies to Climate Change". Interdisciplinary Programme on Humanitarian Action and the Institute of Environment Studies, University of Geneva.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Key outcomes of the Tyndall Centre workshop on resilience and adaptation to climate change". Presenter. Resilience and Vulnerability Colloquium. Stockholm Environment Institute, Stockholm.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Implications of climate change for conflict and migration" Discussant. Social Dimensions of Climate Change. The World Bank Group. Washington D.C.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Vulnerability: concepts and assessment". Institute of History, University of Berne, Switzerland.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2007. Discussant. Freshwater Climate Change Workshop. World Wildlife Fund. Haslemere, UK.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2007. "Environmental Refugees". Dana Centre, Science Museum. London, UK
- Nelson, D. R.** 2005. "Questionnaire Development and Field Experiences". Discussion on the "Research on the Evaluation of the Impact of *Bolsa Família*". Cedeplar-UFMG, Ministério de Desenvolvimento Social e Combate a Fome, Sociedade Científica da Escola Nacional de Ciências Estatísticas, and The World Bank. Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2005. "Appropriate Technologies for the Semi-Arid". Discussant. Konrad Adenaur Stiftung Foundation. Fortaleza, Brazil.
- ORGANIZED CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SESSIONS**
- Tucker, Bram and **D.R. Nelson**. 2016. "Risk and Resilience: Cultures, Societies, and Systems". Co-organizer and host of Society for Economic Anthropology Annual Conference, Athens, GA.
- Nelson, D.R.** 2015. "Anthropology and Public Policy in Brazil". Co-organizer of double session. Society for Applied Anthropology, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Nelson, D.R.** 2014. "Contemporary Applied Anthropology in Brazil". Co-organizer of double session. Society for Applied Anthropology, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2010. "Adaptation with a long-view: promoting resilience in response to environmental and development challenges". Session organizer. Second International Conference: Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions, Fortaleza, Brazil.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2010. "Forms of adaptive management under climate change: A comparative and multidisciplinary perspective". Session organizer. Second International Conference: Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions, Fortaleza, Brazil.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2010. "Social-ecological resilience and climate change". Workshop co-organizer. Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, Southwold, UK.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Living with climate change: are there limits to adaptation?" Steering and Scientific Committee. Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. Royal Geographical Society, London.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Participatory GIS, More than Maps". Session organizer. Society for Applied Anthropology, Memphis TN.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2007. "Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change: Linkages and a New Agenda". Workshop co-organizer. Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, Blakeney, UK.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2007. "Linking Adaptation and Sustainability: Case Studies on Global Change in Local Places". Session organizer. Society for Applied Anthropology, Tampa, FL.

**Nelson, D. R.** 2003. "Developing guidelines to measure food access in Title II programs". Workshop coordinator. FANTA/FAM, Washington, D.C.

#### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Nelson, D.R.,** E. King, J.R. McGreevy, L. German, and F. Isbel. 2016. "A Framework to reconcile ecosystem services and adaptive capacities in rapidly transforming dryland social-ecological systems". Global Land Programme, 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Science Meeting. Beijing, China.

Coughlan, M.L., **D.R. Nelson**. 2016. "Human niche construction and legacy effects at the Calhoun CZO: The relationship of land use legacies and historical settlement patterns". Southeastern Archaeology Conference, Athens, GA.

**Nelson, D.R.** 2016 "Living with drought: Adaptation and Identity". Society for Applied Anthropology, Vancouver, Canada.

**Nelson, D.R.** and T.J. Finan. 2016. "Poverty as Proxy? Social protection and food security in northeast Brazil 1998 – 2012". Society for Applied Anthropology, Vancouver, Canada.

**Nelson, D.R.** and T.J. Finan 2015. "Smallholder resilience: the dynamics of climate, poverty, policy, and politics in Northeast Brazil, 1998 – 2014". Society for Applied Anthropology, Pittsburgh, PA.

- Coughlan, M.R., **D.R. Nelson**, T.L. Gragson. 2015. "Transitioning from livelihood fire to fire suppression in the US Southeast: Causes and consequences of fire regime transition in two forested landscapes". Fire Ecology and Management Conference. San Antonio, TX.
- Finan, T.J. and **D.R. Nelson**. 2015. "Contested Participation within a Clientelistic Tradition: Resistance to Community-Based Development in the Periphery of Fortaleza, Ceará". Society for Applied Anthropology, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Egute, N. S., **D.R. Nelson**, S.M.V. Coutinho, M.F. Ramos, A.S. Carbone, A. Philippi Jr.. 2015 "Exposição às enchentes e capacidade adaptativa ao longo do tempo: o papel de políticas públicas no processo de adaptação". IV Workshop Interdisciplinar de Investigación e Indicadores de Sustentabilidade, Universidad de Concepción, Concepción, Chile.
- Nelson, D.R.**, Lemos, M.C., Eakin, H. and Y. Lo 2014. "Risk and vulnerability reduction: Synergies in drought management and development in Northeast Brazil". Society for Applied Anthropology, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Nelson, D.R.**, Lemos, M.C., Eakin, H. and Y. Lo 2014. "The Conjuncture of Food Security, Drought and Public Investments in NE Brazil". Resilience: Transformation and Development. Montpellier, France.
- Nelson, D.R.**, Lemos, M.C., Eakin, H. and Y. Lo 2014. "Food Security, Drought and Social Policy in NE Brazil. Adaptation Futures, Fortaleza, Brazil
- Nelson, D.R.** and T.J. Finan 2014. "Participation and Powerlessness: The Pursuit of Hope on the Periphery of Fortaleza, Brazil ". Society for Applied Anthropology, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Nelson, D.R.** 2014. "Risk and vulnerability reduction: Synergies in drought management and development in Northeast Brazil". Society for Applied Anthropology, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Nelson, D. R.** 2013. "Patrons, Neighbors and the State: Patterns of household-level resource access within the context of rapid social change". American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2012. "Trajectories of Adaptation: A Retrospectus for Future Change Dynamics". Planet Under Pressure. London, UK.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Adaptation Trajectories". Society for Applied Anthropology. Seattle, WA.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Adaptation with a long-view: promoting resilience in response to environmental and development challenges". Resilience 2011: Second International Science and Policy Conference. Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Combat" or "Coexistence"? – An historical analysis of the impacts of public investment in a drought prone region. Resilience 2011: Second International Science and Policy Conference. Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ.

- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "An analytical approach to the local understanding of drought and drought response in Ceará, Northeast Brazil". Second International Conference: Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions, Fortaleza, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2011. "Adaptation with a long-view: Promoting resilience in response to environmental and development Challenges". Second International Conference: Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions, Fortaleza, Brazil.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2009. "When resilient institutions become maladaptive: Tensions and transformations". International Human Dimensions Program, Bonn.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Adapting to climate change: Contributions of a resilience framework". Resilience, Adaptation, and Transformation in Turbulent Times. Stockholm Resilience Centre and the Stockholm Environment Institute, Stockholm.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Community resilience and institutional tensions: Adaptation to climate change in Northeast Brazil". American Anthropology Association, San Francisco CA.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2008. "Unusual business: PGIS and the transformation of governance". Society for Applied Anthropology, Memphis, TN.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2007. "Weak rains: Dynamic Decision-Making in the Face of Extended Drought in Ceará, Northeast Brazil". Society of Economic Anthropology, Greensboro, NC.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2007. "Persistent Vulnerability and Ironic Adaptation: The (False) Security of Drought in Ceará, Brazil". Society for Applied Anthropology, Tampa, FL.
- Nelson, D. R.** 2003. "The Marriage of Technology and Democracy: Reducing Vulnerability to Drought in Ceará, Brazil". Society for Applied Anthropology, Dallas, TX.
- Nelson, D. R.** 1999. "Making Rain, Making Roads, Making Do: Public and Private Responses to Drought in Ceará, Brazil". Society for Applied Anthropology, Tucson, AZ.
- Nelson, D. R.** 1997. "Farmer Awareness and the Use of Seasonal Climate Forecasting in Ceará, Northeast Brazil". Latin American Studies Association, Chicago, IL.

#### **JOURNAL BOARDS**

Associate Editor for *Anthropocene*  
 Editorial Board and Subject Editor for *Ecology & Society*  
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 Guest Editor for *Economic Anthropology* (2017) 4(2).  
 Guest Editor for *Population and Environment* (2010) 31(5).  
 Guest Editor for the In Focus section of *American Anthropologist* (2009) 111(3).